



## Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOA 4/6/2010

LRB Number	<b>09-4567/1</b>	Introduction Number	<b>AB-0910</b>	Estimate Type	<b>Original</b>
<b>Description</b> Establishment of a Wisconsin conservation corps program, extending the time limit for emergency rule procedures, providing an exemption from emergency rule procedures, granting rule-making authority, and making appropriations					

### Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Assembly Bill (AB) 910 creates a Wisconsin Conservation Corps (WCC) program and a nine member WCC Board which is attached to the Department of Administration (DOA).

AB-910 directs the WCC Board to enter into a contract with a non-profit corporation that has experience in natural resource conservation and youth training or employment to retain, train, and supervise all WCC work crews. The non-profit is required to provide educational programming for work crews, and provide outreach and communications services as required by the WCC Board or administrative rules. Additionally, the non-profit is required to identify and review potential projects, assist with developing proposals and make recommendations to the WCC Board on which projects it should review.

The bill provides that project applications must be submitted to the WCC Board by local governments and nonprofit corporations. The applications must identify the project and include detailed plans on implementation. It must also identify the crew members and provide a determination that the participants will be eligible to participate in a youth corps program administered by the Wisconsin National and Community Service Board (NCSB) and a number of other requirements for supporting participants during and after their time in the WCC.

The NCSB receives federal funding that is matched with funding from grant recipients to support AmeriCorps participants in a wide variety of community service programs. If enacted, AB-910 would require the NCSB to give priority to funding 240 WCC participants in the WCC program in each fiscal year if funding is available and there are eligible applications.

In 2008, the NCSB funded approximately 416 member service years (MSY) through 21 grantee programs using both Formula and Competitive Grants. A MSY is a calculation used by the federal Corporation for National Service to define a full-time equivalent participant. The NCSB estimates that the average cost of one MSY in 2008 was approximately \$24,000 using both federal and match funds. However, the cost of a MSY varies significantly depending on the program and funding duration, and it is currently unknown what the cost of a MSY would be in a youth corps program. It is also unknown which local governments would propose projects and the costs of those projects. Therefore, the fiscal impact of the above provisions is indeterminate.

Under AB-910, administrative support for the WCC Board would be provided by DOA. The Board would be responsible for creating policy for the WCC program, promulgating administrative rules to direct the operation of the WCC program, and reviewing, authorizing or denying the project applications received from sponsors. If the WCC Board approves the project and determines that the proposed participants would meet NCSB requirements, then the Board is required to jointly submit the project application with the sponsor to the NCSB for funding. If the NCSB funding is approved, then the Board is required to provide a grant to the sponsor to be used to provide training to the work crews. The WCC Board is also authorized to establish and assess fees for services provided to project sponsors. Finally, the Board is required to report annually to the state legislature all WCC projects completed in the preceding year or that are in the process of completion at the end of that year.

AB-910 creates three new appropriations in DOA. The first is \$250,000 in SEG funds from the Wisconsin Conservation Fund, the second is \$100,000 in SEG funds from the Normal School Fund, and the third is a program revenue appropriation which is funded from any fees that the WCC Board chooses to assess project sponsors for the services provided by the Board.

Assuming these appropriations can be used to support the general program operations of the WCC Board, no new funding will be required by DOA. However, in order to complete the rule-making and policy

development, contracting, reviewing and deciding on grants, submitting approved grants to the NCSB, and meeting other reporting requirements, DOA estimates that an additional 1.0 FTE would be needed to address this workload. Additionally, DOA estimates that an additional 0.50 FTE would be needed to handle other administrative responsibilities such as scheduling Board meetings, processing correspondence, record keeping, etc. The total salary and fringe costs for the 1.50 FTE are estimated to be approximately \$85,000 annually.

### **Long-Range Fiscal Implications**

Unknown.

## Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2009 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original     
  Updated     
  Corrected     
  Supplemental

<b>LRB Number</b> 09-4567/1		<b>Introduction Number</b> AB-0910	
<b>Description</b> Establishment of a Wisconsin conservation corps program, extending the time limit for emergency rule procedures, providing an exemption from emergency rule procedures, granting rule-making authority, and making appropriations			
<b>I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):</b>			
<b>II. Annualized Costs:</b>		<b>Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:</b>	
		Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
<b>A. State Costs by Category</b>			
State Operations - Salaries and Fringes	\$85,000		\$
(FTE Position Changes)	(1.5 FTE)		
State Operations - Other Costs	265,000		
Local Assistance			
Aids to Individuals or Organizations			
<b>TOTAL State Costs by Category</b>	<b>\$350,000</b>		<b>\$</b>
<b>B. State Costs by Source of Funds</b>			
GPR			
FED			
PRO/PRS			
SEG/SEG-S (20.505(4)(q);(4)(qm))	350,000		
<b>III. State Revenues - Complete this only when proposal will increase or decrease state revenues (e.g., tax increase, decrease in license fee, etc.)</b>			
	Increased Rev	Decreased Rev	
GPR Taxes	\$		\$
GPR Earned			
FED			
PRO/PRS			
SEG/SEG-S			
<b>TOTAL State Revenues</b>	<b>\$</b>		<b>\$</b>
<b>NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT</b>			
	State	Local	
NET CHANGE IN COSTS	\$350,000		\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	\$		\$
<b>Agency/Prepared By</b>		<b>Authorized Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
DOA/ Cathleen Connolly (608) 261-2292		Martha Kerner (608) 266-1359	4/6/2010